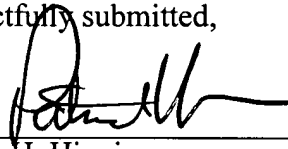


REMARKS

Claims 1-17, 27-29, 34, 36-38, and 42-46 are pending. The Applicant herein respectfully requests examination of the application and consideration of these claims. The remainder of the original claims are cancelled without prejudice merely to expedite prosecution of the pending subject matter at this time. The Applicants, however, fully intend to pursue the subject matter of the cancelled claims in due course.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any deficiency or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-1943.

Respectfully submitted,



Patrick H. Higgins
Reg. No. 39,709
Attorney for Applicants

DATE: April 29, 2005

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